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R. Smith
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: HOFMEISTER

SERIAL NO.: 09/163,844

ART UNIT: 3652

FILED: 9/30/98

EXAMINER: Underwood, D.

TITLE: SUBSTRATE TRANSPORT APPARATUS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 390-008105-US (PAR)

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TC 3600 MAIL ROOM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed 5/24/00 (Paper no. 5) in regard to the above-identified patent application. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claims as indicated below:

Sub D, 17
1. (Amended) A method for transporting a substrate into and out of a substrate holding area on a substrate processing apparatus comprising the steps of:

providing the substrate processing apparatus with a transport arm connected to a drive section with two drive shafts;

providing the substrate on an end effector of [a] the transport arm, the end effector being